

## H.B. 148—ANOTHER NON-Accountability Bill, 2007 General Session

### The following are private school standards in HB 184:

1. No thorough AUDIT requirement—only “agreed-upon procedures”—only in the “1st year of operations,” or may delay the requirement. (lines 114-165 and 183-185)

*Senator Curtis Bramble sponsored S.B. 258 (2006) requiring audits of private entities that take public money. “Private groups must show they have the ‘financial capabilities to meet their end of the obligation,’ Bramble told the Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee earlier this month.”*

*Salt Lake Tribune - 2/21/06*

2. No required school accreditation. (lines 162-163)
3. No requirement for day/hours of instruction. No public accountability for attendance.
4. One “norm-referenced test,” no requirement that it compare students to other Utah students or even that all voucher schools use the same test. No “passing ” standard set for test. (lines 148-149)
5. “Anti-discrimination provisions” limited to race, color, national origin—MAY discriminate against students w/disabilities, those who can’t pay, LEP students or based on religion.

### The following are required of Utah public schools:

1. Annually, public schools provide: college entrance exams w/number and percent of each graduating class for 4 previous years; advanced placement and concurrent data including # and % of students in each course and # and % of those who pass; # and % of students through grade 10 reading at/above grade level; # and % of students who were absent from school ten days or more/year; # and % of “student dropouts” w/in the district; student course-taking patterns; staff qualifications, including years of service and # and % of staff who have a degree/endorsement; # and % of parents who participate in SEP/ parent-teacher conferences; student average daily attendance, show every period in secondary schools; average grades given in Core classes, grades 9-12; # and % of fee waiver students and total \$ amounts; incidents of student discipline—suspensions, expulsions, court referrals (see 53A-3-602.5 for more—doesn’t include all required finance data).
2. All secondary public schools must be accredited by Northwest, many jr. high schools and elementary schools are accredited.
3. All public schools (including charter schools) must have 180 days AND 990 hours of instruction (R277-419 (1)N).
4. U-PASS and district assessments require as many as 5 tests in some grade levels, including a high school exit exam and disaggregation of results by race, ethnicity, and that scores be used in determining student’s grades.
5. Public schools must take ALL students in their geographic boundaries, non-English speaking, non-citizens, §504 students, students w/disabilities, all religions.

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| 6. No required parent involvement in school governance.  | 6. Public schools must have prescriptive Community Councils w/more parents than employee members; SEPs and SEOPs; and have publicly elected governing boards.   |
| 7. No Core curriculum requirements   | 7. Public schools require Core subjects be taught w/specific standards and objectives at all grade levels and that specific requirements be met for graduation (R277-700), including a high stakes graduation test. |
| 8. No protection against required medication for students or prohibitions against discussion of sensitive family issues.                             | 8. Specific prohibitions against discussing sensitive family issues w/students (53A-13-301 and R277-611) .  |
| 9. No required protection/availability of student records—not even to parents.   | 9. Express protection of and availability of student records to parents.  |
| 10. No required licensing of teachers or background checks for school teachers/employees. Disclose this information only to parents. (lines 157-161) | 10. All employees w/ significant unsupervised access to students must have criminal background check.   |
| 11. No insurance required to protect students, parents, visitors, and employees in case of accidents, injuries, abuse.                               | 11. Public schools must have insurance protecting students/employees in case of accidents, injuries, abuse.   |
| 12. Only parents must notify “the Board” if the student does not have <i>continuing</i> enrollment and attendance.                                   | 12. Public schools must drop students for funding purposes after 10 consecutive absences. (R277-419)  |
| 13. No required teacher licensing—only “skills or expertise.”  | 13. Public schools require that teachers be licensed and have specific endorsements including ongoing professional development.   |
| 14. No right to have information about budgets, financial information, previous employment, or salaries of employees of private schools.             | 14. Public schools must make budgets, financial information, salaries, and credentials of all public school employees available to the public.  |
| 15. No required services to students with disabilities—in fact parents waive services for child if they accept the voucher. (lines 129-131)          | 15. Public schools must provide services to students with disabilities consistent with state and federal law.   |